

Appl. No. 09/801,564
Amdt. dated March 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 3, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The claims are modified in the amendment. More specifically, claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 17 and 18 have been amended, claims 3 and 14 have been cancelled, and new claims 23 and 24 have been added. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15-24 are present for examination. No new matter is added by these amendments, which are fully supported by the specification. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

Claims 3, 7-8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Claims 3 and 14 canceled and are largely rewritten in independent form as amended claims 1 and 9. Although, the term "immediate value" is believed to be well-defined in this area of the art, the claims now incorporate some of the definition. Claim 8 is amended as suggested. With respect to claim 7, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection as both interpretations given in the Office Action are believed properly within the scope of the claim. Respectfully, Applicant should not have to choose between the two.

35 U.S.C. §102/103 Rejection, Lin et al and Wang.

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-7, 18 and 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 5,959,874 to Lin et al. ("Lin"). Also, the Office Action has rejected claims 8 and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Lin. Further, the Office Action has rejected claims 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Lin in view of cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,243,730 to Wang ("Wang").

Applicant believes limitations in the current claims are not believed taught or suggested by Lin or Wang. The claims make clear that this instruction can use an immediate format, which is not taught in either Lin et al. or Wang. Indeed, the word "immediate" does not

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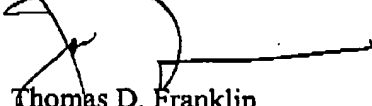
even appear in either reference. In one embodiment, use of an immediate form allows determining an operand without resort to accessing the register file. For at least this reason, Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection to the amended claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is urged. Reconsideration of the claims in their current form is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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